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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military activity in the Area of the Eighth Gds Army

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 November 1954 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

B - boxcar F - flatcar

Eisenach.

1. On 19 and 20 October 1954, the following troop trains left the Eisenach freight station:

Date in October	Time of Departure	Number of Cars	
19	0800	7 B with soldiers, 2 B with equipment, 1 B with ammunition boxes and an undetermined number of F with 20 T-34/85 tanks	25X1 25X1
		10 armored personnel carriers, 10 armored scout cars and 22 trucks	
	1110	13 B with about 250 soldiers, 5 B with equipment, and an undetermined number of F with 32 T-34/85 tanks	25X1
		20 armored personnel carriers and 14 trucks	
	1515	10 B with about 300 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 4 B with equipment and an undetermined number of F with 30 trucks	25X1
		4 tank trucks and 2 field kitchens	
	2100	an undetermined number of F with 5 JS-3 tanks, 5 JS tanks	25X1 25X1

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25X1

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9 T-34/85 tanks

25X1

4 SP guns

25X1

20

1100

13 B with about 400 soldiers, 29 F with 18 trucks,
1 tank trucks, fuel
containers and equipment.

25X1

Naumburg.

2. At about 1030 on 19 October, a troop train of 11 B with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, 2 B with ammunition and 22 F with 6 medium AA guns, 5 light artillery pieces and 9 trucks was unloaded at the Naumburg railroad station.

25X1

3. At 1930 on 19 October, 8 x 76.2-mm AA guns and an AAA height finder came from the west and entered the Hindenburg Kaserne (8383) in Naumburg.³

25X1

4. During the night of 20 October, a motorized engineering unit came from the north and drove into the Hubertus Kaserne (8382) in Naumburg.

Weissenfels.

5. Between 8 and 14 October, the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) in Weissenfels was occupied by about 1,300 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets. On 8 October, 7 x 85-mm AT guns, 6 x 57-mm AT guns, 6 to 8 mortars of 82 mm, and 2 SU-76 were observed at the kaserne. On 14 October, soldiers practiced with 4 x 57-mm AT guns, 2 x 85-mm AT guns and 6 x 82-mm mortars on the training grounds north of Selsau.⁵

25X1

6. On 8 and 14 October, seven driver school trucks each left the Pioneer Kaserne (8522) in Weissenfels.

25X1

25X1

Merseburg.

7. On 19 October, 12 prime movers towing 100-mm AT guns were seen on the drill ground of the Flak Kaserne (8321) in Merseburg.

Zeitz.

8. The detraining of troops at the Zeitz freight station on 20, 21 and 22 October included:

25X1

At about 2200 on 20 October: About 20 T-34/85 tanks

25X1

went
to the Artillerie Kaserne (8542).

25X1

At 2215 on 20 October: About 30 trucks, including 6 trucks towing a 57-mm AT gun each, which drove from the freight station toward the barracks installations.

25X1

25X1

At about 0800 on 21 October: 12 T-34/85 tanks

25X1

3 trucks, each towing an 85-mm AT gun, BA-64
armored scout cars and about 15 trucks

25X1

25X1

25X1

At about 0700 on 22 October: 24 T-34/85 tanks

25X1

and 12 trucks. The
tanks and trucks left toward the barracks installations. At 1200, four
rocket launchers left the freight station and also went toward the
kaserne.

25X1

A railroadman stated that no additional troop trains were expected
to arrive at Zeitz.

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25X1

Gotha.

9. At about 0700 on 20 October, a troop train of 8 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars was loaded with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, 12 x 100-mm AT guns, 14 YA-12 prime movers, and 18 trucks.

25X1

25X1

Gera.

10. On 22 October, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera was occupied by about 2,300 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. On 23 October, 16 x 100-mm AT guns, 4 x 152-mm howitzers, 55 YA-12 prime movers and about 180 trucks.

25X1

25X1

25X1

11. Between 19 and 23 October, the Kaserne Gera-Tinz (8142) was occupied by about 500 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets.

12. On 24 October, only a guard detail of 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia was observed at the Zeitzer Forst troop training grounds.⁸

Saalfeld.

13. At 0630 on 22 October, 6 M-13 rocket launchers and 18 trucks were unloaded at the Saalfeld railroad station. The Prinz Louis Ferdinand Kaserne was occupied by about 600 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, 200 soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets, and 200 soldiers with blue-bordered black or black-bordered black epaulets.⁹

25X1

25X1

Weimar.

14. The following observations were made in Weimar between 11 and 23 October:

Buchenwald Concentration Camp (8508).

11 October: Trucks entered the installation.

25X1

15 October: The gate was guarded by a sentry with black-bordered black epaulets.

Flak Kaserne (8501).

There was no change in the occupation.

14 October: Practicing with 4 x 85-mm AA gun was observed.

20 October: Little training activity was seen.

25X1

25X1

Tannenberg Kaserne (8502).

13 October: Trucks were seen in the eastern section.

25X1

15 October: Troops which were detained at the Weimar freight station and went to the western section of the Kaserne included T-34 tanks

25X1

SP guns

25X1

armored scout car; 6 armored personnel carriers, and 9 trucks.

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Luetzendorf Kaserne (8503).

19 October: The eastern section was occupied by about 250 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets.

15 October: The middle section was occupied by about 200 soldiers with red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets.

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Nachrichten Kaserne (8504).

17 October: The kaserne was occupied by about 500 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets.

Fliegerhorst Nohra (8401/8402).

Up to 23 October: Continuation of the road construction work by about 40 German workers and 40 soldiers.

10

1. Comment. The troop train which departed at 0800 on 19 October 1954 carried additional contingents of the 17th Gds Hv Tk SF Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div back to their home station. The entraining of other elements of the regiment was previously reported.
2. Comment. The observations include most of the entraining at Eisenach and detraining at Zeitz of elements of the 36th Tk Regt and 67th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. Several tank numbers observed at the dispatching station and receiving station were identical. Tank numbers in a previous report indicate that the troop train which left Eisenach at 2215 on 19 October 1954 also carried elements of the 36th Tk Regt. The detraining of the first units arriving at Zeitz on 19 October 1954 was previously reported. The troop train from Eisenach at 2100 on 19 October in the present report also carried elements of the 66th Gds Hv Tk SF Regt which were probably detrained at Jena. The four rocket launchers which were unloaded at 0700 on 22 October 1954 probably belong to the 24th Gds RL Bn of the 20th Gds Mecz Div.
3. Comment. It is believed that several troop trains carrying elements of the 498th AAA Regt were unloaded at Naumburg on 19 October 1954. Since the 498th AAA Regt was previously thought to be located at the Bismarck Kaserne (8385), it is noteworthy that elements of this regiment moved to the Hindenburg Kaserne.
4. Comment. Additional elements of the unidentified engineer battalion of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps probably returned from a field exercise in the Koesen area.

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5. Comment. In contradiction to other observations, the present report indicates that the occupation of the Infanterie Kaserne in Weissenfels had increased slightly. Additional elements of the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt probably returned to their home station. 25X1
6. 25X1
7. Comment. The weapons and prime movers observed confirm the 76th Arty Brig at the Flak Kaserne in Merseburg. 25X1
8. Comment. The troop train carried elements of the 308th Arty Brig. Unloadings at Gera were previously reported. The report indicates that the barracks installations in Gera were apparently occupied to capacity during the period of observation, and that field exercises were no longer conducted at the Zeitzer Forst troop training grounds. 25X1
9. Comment. According to another report, the 316th Gds R- Regt returned to its home station from field exercises shortly before 14 October 1954. Elements of the regiment were probably again absent from the post between 15 and 19 October 1954 to participate in field exercises in the Ohrdruf - Eisenach area. Compared to the occupation on 15 October, the kaserne was occupied by an increased number of soldiers on 22 October 1954. 25X1
10. Comment. The detraining of elements of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt on 19 October indicates that these units also participated in the final field exercises of the 20th Gds Mecz Div in the Ohrdruf - Eisenach area. The departure of the troops from Weimar has not been observed. 25X1

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